

Dear Chairman Powell and Commissioners,
I am greatly disappointed by the lack of informative television programming,
especially concerning news coverage of events.

I am getting increasingly tired of the lack of investigative news reporting.
The major network stations and local news all seem to report on exactly the same
thing - even concerning the "human interest" story. When will citizens be able
to view an issue that was researched, not just covered by newscasters? Can some
of them even call themselves reporters??

Our democracy is at risk when many Americans don't know basic facts about the
candidates or the issues, as was the case in the 2000 elections. Many people
don't take the time to do their own investigating of important issues & rattle
off what they hear on local news...not informative!

The FCC should define meaningful public interest requirements that include local
civic and electoral affairs programming.

The networks should REFUSE to air the debates when the candidates aren't even
debating each other. The debates add up to a live version of TV commercials.
Well-functioning democracy demands that citizens have access to a diversity of
opinions and voices on the choices confronting us.

Sincerely,
Marni Elaine Sickles

Marni Sickles
42301 SE 168th Court
North Bend, WA 980459315